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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

**INFORMATION REPORT
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REPORT NO. [REDACTED] 25X1A

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COUNTRY Indochina

DO NOT CIRCULATE

DATE DISTR. 9 June 1952

SUBJECT Nationalist Opinions on Appointment
of Nguyen Van Tam as Vietnam Premier

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PLACE
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. 25X1X

1. Hanoi political circles are surprised and disappointed at the appointment of Nguyen Van Tam as President of Vietnam. His appointment is regarded as the worst possible way to promote national unity or to fight the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV).

2. The following are possible explanations for the appointment of Tam:

a. Nguyen De,¹ with French Surete support and Bao Dai concurrence, pushed Tam into the presidency. Their hope was that either Tam would not be able to form a government or that his government would collapse, at which point De would become president. De had previously demonstrated his ambitions toward the presidency when he blocked the candidacy of Buu Loc.²

b. Bao Dai, also believing that Tam would be incapable of forming or maintaining a government, gave Tam the job hoping to dispose of both Tran Van Huu and Tam at once. This action would clear the way for a nationalist government.

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3. [REDACTED]

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. Nguyen De was Bao Dai's personal representative in the Tran Van Huu cabinet.

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. Buu Loc, who is now in Paris has been suggested as a possible candidate for the presidency.

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